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#3/A 1/12/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

BERND PENTH ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION :

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: PERMEABLE COMPOSITE

MATERIAL, METHOD FOR

PRODUCING SAID

COMPOSITE MATERIAL, AND

USE OF THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-65 and replace with new Claims 66-105:

66. (New) Permeable flexible composite based on at least one perforated and permeable carrier, which contains on at least one side of the carrier and inside the carrier at least one inorganic component, which consists essentially of at least one compound of a metal, a metalloid or a composition metal and at least one element from group III to VII of the periodic system, which permeable flexible composite is obtained by application of a suspension in which the suspension comprises at least one inorganic component consisting essentially of a compound of at least one metal, a metalloid or a composition metal and at